

Abstract Amendment**Replace the Abstract, as follows:**

Method and apparatus for rapid and efficient change-over between aluminum-zinc based and zinc-based coating molten metal coating baths in a continuous steel strip galvanizing line. The invention uses the prior art tank-in-tank method, but modified so the second inner tank can be immersed without its own heater and without the prohibitive need for a protective ceramic outer layer (having poor thermal conductivity) against the corrosive aluminum-zinc bath of the first tank. To be able to accomplish this during use of the second tank, the composition of said first bath is counter-intuitively adjusted away from its coating composition by removing a large portion of the aluminum-zinc content and adding zinc to the remaining bath; so that its melting point is lowered to prevent solidification at the zinc coating temperatures, preferably to within 400°C and 480°C and with a density in the range of 5.5 to 6.0 tons/m³.